



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

San Francisco Maritime  
National Historical Park

Building E, Fort Mason Center,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Francisco,  
California 94123

**Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

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Approved:

Kevin Hendricks

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is located in a heavily urbanized area, and is at the confluence of multiple city, state and federal jurisdictions. For the sake of clarity, these definitions are included here:

Roads and Paths: Three park areas are considered roads/roadways or parking areas: the western end of Jefferson Street, until the turnaround bulb just west of the roundhouse; lower Van Ness Avenue, from approximately the north wall of the Williams Sonoma Building; and roadway area of Municipal Pier. All other areas of travel within the park are considered paths or trails.

**I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

- (a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:**

Visiting Hours

- Hyde Street Pier  
May 30-September 15                      9:30 am-5:30 pm  
September 16-May 29                      9:30 am-5:00 pm

*This area is designated as day use due to public safety concerns associated with falling hazards and the marine environment during hours of darkness with no scheduled attendant*

*protection services. In addition, without adequate supervision, inadvertent damage and vandalism to the historic ships would occur.*

- Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building (Maritime Museum)  
Daily 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Visitor Center  
May 30-September 15 9:30 am-5:30 pm  
September 16-May 29 9:30 am-5:00 pm
- Municipal Pier  
Daily Dawn to Dusk

*This area is designated as day use due to public safety concerns associated with the inadequacy of period lighting fixtures to illuminate potential safety hazards.*

#### Closures

- Hyde Street Pier, Maritime Museum, Visitor Center  
New Year's Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day
- Municipal Pier  
During major events occurring along the San Francisco waterfront

*This area is closed due to public safety concerns that large numbers of visitors could over-tax the Pier's deteriorating superstructure.*

#### Public Use Limits

- Food and beverages are not allowed aboard historic ships at Hyde Street Pier, Maritime Museum and the Visitor Center

*Restrictions are for the protection of significant cultural resources.*

**(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the conditions and/or restrictions as noted:**

#### Boating

- Only non-motorized sail/auxiliary boats are allowed in Aquatic Park Cove, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.
- Overnight (sunset to sun up) stays by visiting vessels are by permit only. Permits are approved for no more than 5 consecutive nights at a time. A break of 1 full week of seven (7) 24 consecutive hour time periods from Aquatic Park Cove is required before re-entering the Cove for overnight stays. Another permit can be submitted for approval after the 7 day break. Total overnight stays are limited to 30 nights per year. Vessels may not be left unattended for more than six hours. A maximum of 12 visiting vessels may overnight in the Cove. Permits are issued by the Aquatic Park Cove Harbormaster.

- Day use of the Cove by visiting vessels does not require a permit, except during high use days within the Cove, or during major events occurring along the San Francisco waterfront. Days when a permit will be required for day use will be posted on the park's website. Permits are issued by the Aquatic Park Cove Harbormaster.
- There are no permanent fixed moorings available to visiting vessels. Use of the Cove requires an adequate anchor and proper gear. All vessels over 40' in length or 8' in draft require park approval prior to entering the Cove.
- The space for visiting non-motorized boats is available on a first come, first served basis. The Cove offers aquatic opportunities to many park users. Motorized boats are not permitted due to the large numbers of swimmers who use the area.
- Vessels that are classified as a sailboat may use a small auxiliary motor for safe maneuvering. Sailboat operator must have a lookout while underway to watch for swimmers.
- Contact Harbormaster (415-859-6807) for additional information or a permit.

*The purpose of these restrictions is to prevent conflicts between inconsistent recreational uses, which would create unsafe situations, and to enhance visitor use of the Cove.*

#### Bicycles

- With the exception of established roads, roadways, parking areas, or designated bicycle routes, the use of bicycles in San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is prohibited.

*The purpose of this restriction is to prevent conflict between inconsistent recreational uses, which would create unsafe situations.*

#### Motor Vehicles

- With the exception of roads, roadways and parking areas, the use of motor vehicles by the general public in San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park by non-mobility impaired visitors is prohibited without a written permit. Because of the structural condition and recreational uses of Municipal Pier, all use of motorized vehicles by non-mobility impaired general public users is prohibited without a permit. Permit conditions for use of motorized vehicles on Municipal Pier include general safety factors, and a weight limit of no greater than 50 psf.

*The purpose of this restriction is to prevent conflict between inconsistent recreational uses, which would create unsafe situations.*

**(a)(3) The following restrictions and/or conditions are in effect for the specific uses or activities noted:**

#### Snorkeling/Underwater Diving

- Snorkeling and underwater diving are prohibited in the Aquatic Park Cove (reference 36 CFR §3.18)

*Restrictions are for the safety and protection of recreational users, and for the protection of significant cultural resources.*

#### Diving or Jumping from Municipal Pier

- Diving or jumping from Municipal Pier is prohibited (reference 36 CFR §1.5)

*Restrictions are for the safety and protection of recreational users, and for the protection of significant cultural resources. The pier structure is not designed for this type of activity: the historic concrete pedestrian barriers along the perimeter of the pier are narrow and lack suitable steps or stairs to climb atop or over the wall, and also lack a suitable area to stand or sit atop the wall. There also is no suitable area outside of the pedestrian wall to stand or jump from. The Pier structure is in poor condition; concrete has crumbled from many areas of the pier, and could crumble or break off from walls and other areas of the pier during the act of climbing atop or over the wall and preparing to jump into the water. The act of climbing over the walls could also cause further damage to the structure, potentially hastening failure of wall segments. The water area around the pier includes a number of hazards, including broken and partly submerged pilings, tidal currents and wave surge.*

#### Unmanned Aircraft

- Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent. (reference 36 CFR §1.5).

Definition: The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

*Restrictions are for the safety and protection of recreational users, and for the protection of significant cultural resources.*

#### Feeding of Feral Animals

- The feeding of feral animals of all types is prohibited in all park areas (reference 36 CFR §2.2)

*Restrictions are for the protection of significant natural and cultural resources, and for public safety. Feral animals have an adverse impact on wildlife and conflict with National Park Service resource preservation goals.*

## **II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT**

For permit information and applications, contact Supervisory Park Ranger, Division of Interpretation.

**The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the Superintendent is required:**

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:
  - 2.38 Explosives – Fireworks
  - 2.50 Special Events – Sporting, Entertainment, Ceremonies, etc.
  - 3.3 Boating and Water Use - Boating Permits
  - 4.10 Travel on Park Roads and Routes – Segways
  - 5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business
  - 5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming

### **III. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### **36 CFR §2.10 – Camping and Food Storage**

The sites and areas listed below have been designated for camping activities as noted.

- The park does not have any facilities to accommodate camping.

#### **36 CFR §2.15 – Pets**

The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets (with the exception of service dogs):

- Aquatic Park beach
- Hyde Street Pier, north of the entrance gate
- Maritime Museum
- Visitor Center
- Trails not designated for pets
- All areas fenced and/or posted as closed
- Building E, Fort Mason Center

Dogs must be kept on a leash in all other areas of the park.

Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:

- Pet excrement must be picked up and placed in an adequate plastic bag or container – and disposed of in trash receptacle.

#### **36 CFR §2.20 – Skating, Skateboards and Similar Devices**

The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices are permitted on hard surfaces wherever pedestrian traffic is allowed with the exception of:

- Hyde Street Pier

- Visitor Center
- Maritime Museum
- East and West vehicular access ramps adjacent to the Maritime Museum Building
- Aquatic Park bleachers
- Retaining walls
- Stairs

### **36 CFR §2.21 – Smoking**

The following portions of the park or all or portions of the buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:

- On board the historic ships, on Hyde Street Pier, in the Visitor Center and within the Maritime Museum.
- Within all government buildings/vehicles (excluding designated smoking areas).

### **36 CFR §2.23 – Recreation Fees**

Recreation fees, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas:

- Entrance Fee Areas:

An entrance fee is in place to board the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. The fee is \$5.00 per adult (ages 16 and up). No fee is charged to youths and children (ages 15 and below). The following valid cards are honored for free admission: Inter-Agency Annual Pass, IA Senior Pass, IA Access Pass, and San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Annual Pass. There are four historic vessels to board; the sailing ship *Balclutha*, the sailing schooner *C.A. Thayer*, the ferryboat *Eureka*, and the tugboat *Hercules*.

### **36 CFR §2.35 – Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

- All areas of Park except with permit

*Special prohibition at Aquatic Park and Municipal Pier is required due to the history of aberrant behavior directly attributed to the use of alcohol which has led to assaults, unruly crowds, disorderly conduct, and vandalism to both public and private property. Special prohibition at Hyde Street Pier is required to protect visitors from injury while visiting the historic ships.*

### **36 CFR §2.38 – Explosives**

Fireworks and firecrackers may be possessed and/or used in the following areas, under the conditions noted:

- No person or persons, firm, company, corporation or association shall possess, fire or discharge any fireworks of any kind or description within San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, except that public displays of fireworks may be conducted with a written permit from the Superintendent and the concurrence of Fire and Police authorities.

*Fireworks are prohibited in order to maintain consistency with local laws and regulations and to protect visitors from injury and the park's resources from accidental fire.*

### **36 CFR §3.3 – Boating and Water Use – Boating Permits**

Overnight use (sunset to sun up) of the Aquatic Park Cove by visiting vessels is by permit only.

*The purpose of this restriction is to allow more visitors use the park's resources.*

During high use days within the Cove, or major events occurring along the San Francisco waterfront, day use of the Cove by visiting vessels is by permit only.

*The purpose of this restriction is to prevent conflicts between inconsistent recreational uses, which would create unsafe situations, and to enhance visitor use of the Cove.*

### **36 CFR §3.17 – Boating and Water Use – Swimming and Bathing**

The following areas are closed to swimming and bathing:

- All areas except the Aquatic Park Cove.

The Cove is an unguarded beach with no lifeguards on duty and is designated a “swim at your own risk” area.

The use of floatation devices, glass containers, kites, or incompatible sporting activities is not permitted.

*The purpose of this restriction is to prevent unsafe situations for swimmers and bathers.*

### **36 CFR §4.10 – Travel on Park Roads and Routes**

Park roads open for travel by motor vehicles without a permit are those indicated below:

- Lower Van Ness Avenue from the bus turnaround north to the Municipal Pier entrance.
- Jefferson Street from Hyde Street west to the vehicle turnaround.

The use of Segways by non-mobility impaired persons on park paths or trails is prohibited. Operation of Segways by non-mobility impaired persons on roads, roadways or parking areas is authorized by permit only. In addition to specific permit conditions:

- No person under 16 years of age may operate Segways, without adult supervision
- Segway operators must proceed in a safe and responsible manner so as not to endanger the rider or other park visitors.
- A person riding a Segway has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under CA VC § 467, except that the mobility assistive device operator must always yield to other pedestrians

*Authorizing this use by permit gives the NPS the opportunity to insure that users understand use limitations, potential hazards due to other visitor use activities, and other safety concerns.*

Mobility-impaired persons may operate a Segway in areas open to the public, in situations analogous to use of a motorized wheelchair (i.e. as a Mobility Assistive Device). Users of Segways as a mobility assistive device must adhere to the following:

- No person under 16 years of age may operate Segways, without adult supervision
- Segway operators must proceed in a safe and responsible manner so as not to endanger the rider or other park visitors.
- A person riding a Segway has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under CA VC § 467, except that the mobility assistive device operator must always yield to other pedestrians